

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/757,798

Examiner

Nasser Ahmad

Applicant(s)

ADAMS, ANGELA HURST

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/11/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-14, 16-24, 28 and 31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/15/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Donald M. Hill, Jr. on December 20, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 24, line 13, after "component", the phrase - -; wherein the core component is provided in the form of a substrate affixed to the core and having a free end portion that remains unattached to the core, the free end portion having a release material disposed thereon for releasable attachment to the leading portion of the web component;

and wherein the free end of the core component is provided to have a folded-over portion of the substrate, the folded-over portion defining a core-facing surface on which the release material is disposed, the folded-over portion lying between the core and another portion of the substrate that is attached to the folded-over portion along a fold line, and wherein during the unwinding step the folded-over portion is pulled by the web component as the tail end of the web is advanced away from the core such that the folded-over portion unfolds about the fold line and thereby places the fold-over portion in a more advantageous orientation relative to the web component for peeling apart the web component and folded-over portion - - has been added.

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Claim 28, line 8, after "fashion", the phrase - -; wherein the core component comprises a substrate having a core-attaching portion attached to the outer surface of the core and a free end portion unaffixed to the core;

and wherein an end region of the free end portion of the substrate is folded beneath the remainder of the free end portion and the splicing tape is adhered to the end region - - has been added.

Claims 25-27 and 29-30 have been canceled.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A review of applicants' arguments in amendment filed on October 11, 2005 and a review of the instant amended claims has convinced the examiner that the claims are allowable over the applied prior art of record. The prior art uncovered so far fails to teach or suggest a mechanism to aid in startup of a winding web and subsequent splicing during unwinding, wherein the mechanism comprises a core component and a web component, the core component is a substrate comprises a core-attaching portion and a free end portion extending out from the core, a portion of the substrate is folded over along a fold line such that the free end portion comprises two layers and the core attaching portion comprises one layer of the substrate and a release of release material is disposed on both the opposite outer surfaces of the folded free end portion; and the web component comprises an adhesive splicing tape with a leading end portion being adhered to the free end portion of the core component. Further, the web component can

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include a splice-detection element detectable by a sensor. The prior art also fails to teach for unwinding and splicing a web comprising providing a roll of web having a tail end attached to the winding core by the two-component mechanism having a core component that is attached directly to the core surface, unwinding the web and splicing the tail end of the web to the leading of a second web, and wherein the component has a free end portion that is folded-over portion defining a core -facing surface on which the release material is disposed. Also, no evidentiary support could be provided to support the position that the claimed invention would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser Ahmad whose telephone number is 571-272-1487. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Nasser Ahmad 12/20/05
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1772

N. Ahmad.
December 20, 2005.